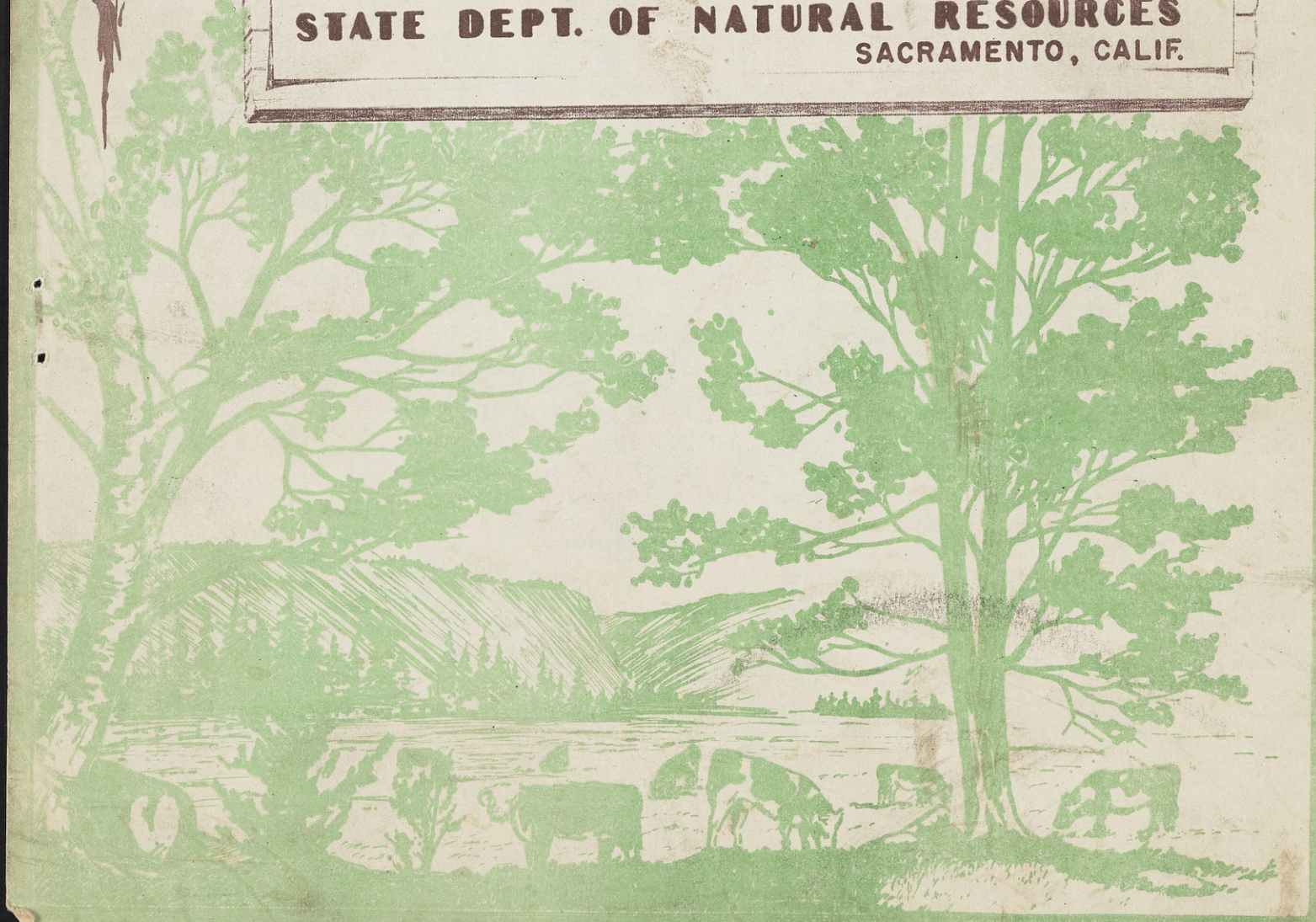
February 1949 Vol. 8 No. 2

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.



PROPOSED 1949-1950 BUDGET OF DIVISION

Pursuant to your request we are offering for your consideration, the following comments about the Division of Forestry proposed 1949-50 budget:

The Division of Forestry now has before the Legislature for consideration a budget which proposes an expenditure for the 1949 Fiscal Year, $9,452,419. This figure may be broken down as follows:

(1) Support: Administration, $346,821; Conservation and Education $46,446; Field Operations District Headquarters, $493,119. Field Operations--Field Services, $5,283,298, Field Operations--Forest work camps, $786,108; Forest Management, $132,296; Range Improvement, $42,457; Maintenance and Improvements, $223,407; State Nursery, $28,220.

Total Support: $7,382,172.

(2) Other Current Expenses: Allotments to Counties, $618,614; Allotments to U.S. Forest Service, $619,196; Forest Land Survey, $90,000; Watershed research, $24,000; White Pine Blister Rust Control, $168,437; Emergency Fire Suppression, $500,000; Pine Beetle Control, $25,000; Preliminary services for State Forests, $25,000. Total - Other Current Expenses --$2,070,247.

Total Expenditures ---$9,452,419.

An Assembly Ways and Means Subcommittee has heard our Budget and due to the fact that the General Fund is now seriously over-drawn that Subcommittee has recommended that our Support Budget of $7,382,172 be cut by six percent. What the final outcome of this recommendation will be is not possible for us to say at this time. In addition to the above, the Division of Forestry has proposed capital outlay budget up for consideration by the Legislature which amounts to $3,605,733. This may be broken down as follows:

Postwar, $1,222,861; Acquisition of Forest Fire Control Stations, $57,633; Minor Construction, $118,100; Six additional Forestry Work Camps, $2,207,139.

The Legislature will scrutinize these proposals closely, and while we are confident that they will stand this close scrutiny, we cannot at this time exactly relate just how much of this money will be made available to us.

The California Division of Forestry News Letter is published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

DeWitt Nelson	State Forester
William H. Fairbank	Editor
Frances Skewes	Assistant Editor
Cover by Fred Gordon	Delineator

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

The State Forest Purchase Committee, meeting in Sacramento on February 11, approved the acquisition of 3,433 acres of forest land on Boggs Mountain in southwestern Lake County as a State Forest. The Committee, made up of the Governor, Director of Finance, Chairman of the State Board of Forestry, and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, authorized the latter to consummate the purchase. Routine procedures are now under way with the principal agents involved, the Calso Company, who own the land; and Setzer Forest Products Inc., who control the timber rights. The large merchantable trees on the tract are being retained by the Setzer Company under a precutting agreement to be logged under provisions of the Forest Practice Rules. This will be the fourth forest of appreciable size to be owned and managed by the State as a State Forest. Others include the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County, 52,303.66 acres; La Tour State Forest in Shasta County, 9,013.35 acres; and Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County, 4,562.39 acres.

A compilation of seed collecting activities of the Division shows that almost 400 pounds of cleaned seed were collected this past season. The yield of seed by district is as follows:

District I	90 pounds
District II	124 "
District III	76 "
District IV	98 "
District V	7 "

The Division intends to enlarge this seed collecting program in future years. An expansion of the Division's forest nursery activities, through the establishment of branch nurseries at certain CYA camps and at State Forests will demand a sufficient quantity of stored seed be in readiness. The Division's objective is to supply badly needed forest tree planting stock at reasonable cost for both private and public reforestation purposes. As soon as the weather becomes favorable for lifting the seedling stock at the Whitmore CYA Camp branch nursery, work will commence on an experimental planting program on the lands of the Sacramento Box Company located in Butte County. The project will be a combined venture on the part of the company, the Western Pine Association, and the Division of Forestry. District II personnel and an Assistant Forest Technician from the State Nursery will participate. 2,000 one year old Ponderosa pine seedlings will be planted, 1,500 of which will be treated with three different kinds of transpiration inhibitors.

The State Forester presented a comprehensive analysis and report to the State Board of Forestry in San Francisco on February 16 of the 1948 forest practice activities of the Division. The report indicated forest land owners had made substantial progress this past season in adjusting their operations to meet the provisions of the Forest Practice Rules. The report indicated an estimated 85% compliance with the Rules in the Redwood District, 76% in the North Sierra Pine, 95% in the South Sierra Pine, and 45% in the Coast Range Pine and Fir. Ninety percent of the operators that cut over fifteen million board feet of lumber this last year were in compliance with the Rules while only 50% of the operators cutting under fifteen million board feet registered full compliance. Compliance to the Rules by number of operations improved as a whole from 40% to 75% during the year. It is encouraging to note that on a total production basis the report estimated an 80% compliance with the Rules. This information was compiled from a total of 2,840 separate field inspections made by Division of Forestry employees. Current problems encountered by industry in meeting provisions of the Rules were discussed at the San Francisco meeting which was attended by more than thirty representatives of private timber companies. Of major concern to all operators

was the difficult nature of their educational job with woods workers. To be completely successful, the Rules must be recognized by the men actually on the ground, the cat skinner, choppers, etc. The problem of proper training and instruction of these men seems to be a major difficulty at the present time. As the compliance figures indicated, the smaller operators were in greatest violation of the rules . The Forest Practice Committees of the various districts intend to study these and other problems in the near future to arrive at possible recommendations for changes and improvements in the Rules.

A summary of the Division's Forestry Advisory Program has been compiled for the calendar year 1948. More than 200 farmers, who own approximately 43,000 acres of timber land, were given forest management assistance. Total products harvested under the advisory program amounted to over twenty million board feet of timber bringing approximately $83,000 gross return to the farmers. When it is realized that California has over 12,000 farmers who control an aggregate of 3,200,000 acres of timber land, it can readily be seen that the Division's forest advisory work has barely scratched the surface. Six Forest Advisors have been assigned to this program the past year operating in twenty three timber counties of the State.

Plans are under way for holding a week's training session for the Division's Forest Technicians working in the pine region. The training school will be held at the Dew Drop Fire Suppression Camp near Jackson in Amador County. The school is to be sponsored cooperatively by the Division, the University of California, the U. S. Forest Service, and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. It is planned to have various experts conduct discussions in the classroom and in the woods on insect and disease damage, timber marking, estimating volumes of second growth pine stands, and other pertinent subjects. Several technical forestry positions were filled during the month. Robert Grundman, formerly employed by the Union Lumber Company, has been employed to fill the position in District I recently vacated by Forest Technician Arnold Wallen. George Rowe of the Sacramento Engineering Staff has been transferred to assume the duties of the Forest Technician in charge of the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County. Dean Bennett, Assistant State Forest Ranger in Riverside County, has moved to District III as Forest Advisor. Earl Sechrist, formerly with the U. S. Forest Service has been employed to fill a vacant position on the Forest Manager's staff in Sacramento.

1948 activities in land clearing were discussed in considerable detail on February 17 at the Board of Forestry meeting in San Francisco. A summary of this activity indicates that a total of 9,480 acres were cleared by private land owners during the winter period of 1948 from January 1 through May 1. Of this total, approximately 6,000 acres were control burned and 3,455 acres cleared by mechanical means. Nearly 47% of the land cleared during this winter period was reseeded to various kinds of grasses. During the summer period a total of 271 applications for burning permits were received but only 131 of the ranchers to whom permits were issued completed their control burns. A total of 24,041 acres was burned under permit during the summer period. Records indicate that 52% of the area cleared during the summer period was reseeded. Since the inception of the present range improvement program in 1945, the trend has been toward fewer controlled burns and a smaller area being burned each year. Field reports indicate this year that applications for permits were not so numerous as in former years. Reasons for this trend decrease are not clear. A major factor undoubtedly in some parts of the State is the fact that many ranchers burned large portions of their brush range during the first two or three years of this program and it will be another one or more before they wish to reburn these areas as a part of their

system of rotation. In other instances, brush lands burned over during past years still have a good quantity of feed which ranchers wish to utilize for another year or so before reburning. If this is the important factor in the program as appears likely, the long-time pattern which will emerge will be that of a peak in acreage burn at intervals of six to eight years and in the intervening time acreage cleared by control burning will be considerably less than during peak periods. From the experience of the past few years it is believed that there is an indication that most ranchers are becoming interested in control burning on relatively small areas at any one time so that the area can be fully utilized. One of the most urgent needs in the investigation phase of the range improvement program is for demonstrations of management methods on brush ranges. The Division of Forestry set up one such demonstrational study area this year in San Benito County in cooperation with the County Farm Advisor. The object of the study in this area is to investigate certain conditions of soil, topography, and climate under which fire and mechanical means of brush clearance may be used to eradicate or control brush species on range lands and to demonstrate some types of management which might be used in conjunction with a control program to obtain the maximum amount of forage. This study has been set up for a minimum period of five years and it is hoped to extend it to ten years if results seem to justify and other conditions permit.

During 1948 twelve field test plots were established in Shasta, Siskiyou, and Lassen Counties. Most of these plots are one-half or one acre in size and they are designed to test the adaptability of certain range forage species to reseeding in given localities. Additional test plots of similar size and design were established during the year in Mariposa and Tulare Counties.

The annual summary of fire statistics has been compiled this month and presently is being mimeographed. It will be ready for distribution by the end of March. The Fire Control Manual is about 75% complete and should be ready for field distribution by mid April. The General Motors Company has advised that ten chassis and cabs for dump truck construction will be delivered to the Division by the 10th of March. The bodies are to be assembled by the Freuhauf Trailer Company. These vehicles will be available for the field. The Bureau of Purchases was forwarded this month requisitions for ten fire trucks equipped with a 400 gallon water tank, twelve crew trucks, and ten power wagons. The Bureau of Purchases also is in the process of acquiring one heavy duty twenty-five ton diesel transport and two transport trailers. At a fixed price sale nine of twenty obsolete fire trucks were sold this month to fire protection districts and farm operators. To offset the increased cost of operations, the Division this month received supplemental operating funds amounting to $79,000. Approximately $7,000 was also received to offset the increased price of automotive equipment budgeted in the 1948-49 Fiscal Year.

DO YOU KNOW?

1. The Forest Practice Act of 1945 (amended 1947) divides the State into Forest Practice Districts. Can you give the number of districts and their names?

2. What two general groups of plants does White Pine Blister Rust attack?

3. Do any sections of the Health and Safety Code affect the operation of the Division of Forestry?

4. Are "Blank Cartridges" considered "Dangerous Fireworks"?

5. What are the names of two Acts enabling Federal cooperation with states in matters of reforestation and land management?

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN EDITION #1, VOL. 8 OF THE NEWS LETTER

1. Two wild plants that are members of the pea family and considered excellent forage for livestock are Burr Clover and Vetch of various kinds.

2. A common broad-leafed annual which is one of the leading forage plants in California is Filaree, either Red Stem or White Stem.

3. The Eel River provides the prinipal drainage for the Redwood Region.

4. When a fire truck is responding to a fire call no vehicle other than another emergency vehicle shall follow closer than 300 feet.

5. Under the law, the State Nursery can provide growing stock for reforestation of private lands. See Page 69 of the Forest and Fire Laws, 1947.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEWS FROM TUOLUMNE COUNTY

We have at last begun to look down upon fires. To the administrative personnel of the State Division of Forestry, Rangers, Associate Rangers, and Assistant Rangers, such are being taught the kindly art of looking down upon fires in an intelligent manner. An instructional course in aerial photography for District III was held at Headquarters Office in North Sacramento during a three day period during February and was attended by Forestry personnel from all counties in the District.

The classes were conducted by a very learned gentleman who was well versed on the subject and skilled in the art of teaching and imparting knowledge to members of his class. This teaching ability was so apparent that our administrative personnel, Ranger Ed Minners, Associate Ranger R. F. Harris, and Assistant Ranger Don Roleder, returned to Tuolumne County with the feeling of having absorbed valuable information for future fire seasons and forestry in general.

Accommodations and services for Tuolumne personnel during the three day sojourn were remarkable. It seems as though Minners and Harris took lodging at Ye OldeTime Motor Motel and with and among other quaint efforts to please were served breakfast in bed. Pax Vobiscum!! Ye Olde Time hospitality and aerial photography combined had a great and inspiring influence upon Harris. When Minners visited Harris the following Sunday morning to discuss a little business he found a rather perturbed Mrs. Harris serving Mr. Harris his Sunday morning breakfast - in bed. Harris, with Mark Twain thoughtfulness and custom, moved over and called for his wife to bring another breakfast.

S. L. Sinclair, Assistant Ranger

ORCHIDS FROM CALAVERAS

Firstly, our Congratulations to the News Letter staff on the new and outstanding frontispiece - you may well "point with pride."

Secondly, it appears we "missed the boat" (or was it the snowplow) by not contributing any January news of the snowfall in our area. Briefly, it snowed here, too. Of a more serious note, however, is the fact that through much of the storm period heavy snowpacks were lacking in the high elevations where they are most

needed and also were of low water content.

Weather conditions have focused more attention to our indoor jobs. The blanket room in our San Andreas headquarters warehouse has been reconstructed and improved - so much so that a housing problem was created for our mice population. The carpenter crew was comprised of Foremen Leo Cassell and Harold Woods and Equipment Operator Foster Vernon, with Associate Ranger Bradford as "architect." Foremen Clarence Dormody and Fred Day embarked on an extensive tool - painting program and claim that Assistant Ranger Herb Caton swings a mean paint brush, too.

The carpenter due to Vernon and Woods combined to turn out a handsome console-type desk for the Dispatcher's office. Not letting them rest on their laurels, Ranger Jim Fenlon then loaned their services to Amador County where they laid the floor tile in Ranger Walt Mueller's new headquarters office.

In February we added to our crew a new Foreman, Layland Friberg, formerly a Fire Truck Driver in Placer County. Welcome, "Fri"! Another personnel change was that of Foreman Andrew Lavagnino's moving to the Pine Grove CYA camp. Andy's experience in telephone line construction is already being put to good use, we understand.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

COUNTY SCHOOL HOUSE TRANSFORMED TO CREW BARRACKS

The newly acquired Keystone station has been going through a rebuilding stage during the last few months. The building, an old abandoned country school house, was donated to the Forestry. At first glance it appeared that everything about it needed repairing. The roof needed repairing, the floor sagged, the windows were broken and the crew found a rattlesnake in the building. It looked almost impossible to rebuild it into a first class barracks with the small amount of funds available. However, Tuolumne County personnel, after first removing said rattlesnake gently, fell to and the birth of a new barracks was soon on its way. A washroom was partitioned off inside the building and finished complete with shower, toilet, washbasin, stationary tubs, hot water heater, clothes lockers and cement floors. Then a small office was built in one corner of the original one room school house. Excluding the space occupied by the washroom and office there was still plenty of room left for sleeping quarters. All interior walls were then plastered and the original ten foot ceiling was lowered to eight feet. A septic tank was built and the leaching line laid. All electrical wiring was finished even to a sufficient number of service outlet plugs. A deep well pump and pressure system was installed in the well that was on the property when the Forestry fell heir to it. A spacious new pump house was erected and painted. All the plumbing, carpentering, cabinet making, electrical, painting and plastering work was done by our own men with not one cent spent for outside skilled help! There is still more construction work to be done on this building but we feel sure that it can be done with our present personnel.

R. F. Harris
Associate Ranger

DARING TO BE DIFFERENT

If no one had ever dared to be different, no progress would ever have been made.

But people who feel that they have something new and different to offer often become discouraged because they or their ideas are not immediately accepted.

Often when a man has a new idea he would be more comfortable if he could forget it. But, perhaps, he can't forget it. And if he can't, he must be prepared to pay the price. Progress always comes at a price.

Perhaps, where you work you have seen things that could be improved. Perhaps, you have made suggestions that were not well received. But, if you have something worthwhile to offer, don't be discouraged simply because others don't see it or accept it as rapidly as you believe they should.

The man with a new idea, a new invention, or an improved process almost always meets misunderstanding, ridicule, and resistance.

It is a serious thing to disturb old ideas. It isn't easy for any of us to give up things we have become comfortably accustomed to. Change is an effort and an inconvenience. The old rut is quite comfortable, and so we resist those who want to shake us out of it.

Alvin B. Filippini
Associate State Forest Ranger

DOUBLE TROUBLE

District IV seems to be destined for that familiar ill omen "Double Trouble" regardless of our efforts. A few years before the war someone in Madera County with an apparent odd sense of humor, or in a weak moment, employed identical twins, Dick and Bob Ford, as firefighters, and according to old timers things really went into a whirl. No one knew whether Bob was on duty or Dick was pinch-hitting for Bob, or vice versa. It was with a sigh of relief when in 1941 our "boys" took advantage of the recent squabble to become Gentlemen.....by act of Congress, of course....in Uncle Sam's Air Force. From all reports they managed to upset the Army's regular routine by remaining together through training--and for all we know they might have even flown twin tail fighters piggy back together. So when the war was over, regulations and the Boss decided to put an end to this double take by assigning Dispatcher Bob Ford to Visalia and Mr. Dick Ford as Dispatcher to Madera, but then rumor has it that even then they used to pinch hit for one another. So, when Bob was transferred to District V we all gave a sigh of relief. But, alas! "Double Trouble" struck again when according to the January issue of the News Letter Bob Ford, now an Assistant Ranger in Santa Cruz, doubled for Dick Ford, our Dispatcher, in a news release.

Arthur Moberg
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM KINGS COUNTY

News in Kings County is very scarce this month with vacations etc. However, we are getting ready for a spring house-cleaning, one man attended training school at Woodlake, Tulare County this past week, another driver is attending night school at Hanford, equipment is being put in order, one new truck being built up, continuation of building, planting trees and shrubs, also, the road district will disk along county roads. In other words, the new few months will be busy ones. "WE ARE GOING TO HAVE FIRE PREVENTION GALORE."

We have had very little rain this season, approximately 1.5 inches, no grass in sight, looks bad for the stockmen, on the other hand, we can be very happy over the wonderful snow in the mountains and that means water for irrigation.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BREAKS LONG SILENCE

Since Santa Cruz County has been taken off the ASBESTOS list via the Pine Mountain Fire, and placed in the COMBUSTIBLE category, we are going all out to keep reminding everyone that we are here: SO - On September 5th, 1948, Mrs. and Mr. Robert W. Ford announced the arrival of a baby girl (remind us some time to tell you ALL about it - big fire, prospective father out of communication on the fire line, radio calls, telephone calls and the Stork hovering closer every minute) and then on January 4th, 1949, Mr. and Mrs. Lou Reese had their second baby - a boy. Even Steven so far. One boy - one girl. One prospect in the very near future but we wont mention any names.

Still not mentioning any names - we are a little tired of that old "SAW" about bumping into doors when showing up at work with TWO BIG BLACK EYES. 'Taint my fault.

Ann Onymous

ASSISTANT RANGERS GO SMOKE HAPPY

It began on January 24th at 6:20 P.M. A Mr. Roe reported fire in Zayante Canyon. Knowing the danger in this area, the Schedule "A" driver dispatching, tried to get a definite location. After making numerous calls to cooperators in the area where the fire was reported, another call came in. Fire on Glen Haven Road. No more had the phone been hung up when another report said fire above Soquel. At this the Dispatcher was frantic, but it was not to stop here. Yes you guessed it. A fire above Big Creek was the next report. It was decided the Dispatcher should pack his clothes to move fast. By this time it was 10 P. M. and the calls were still coming in and the Assistant Rangers were still chasing that Big red glow.

After three more calls from frantic people, it was decided that the Northern Lights were doing their best and we were only chasing the stars. We don't feel too silly about it tho, because Forestry men in the North end of the State were out on the same thing.

Winter Walchell
Santa Cruz County's Seeing Eye

INSTRUCTOR TRAINING IN DISTRICT VI

The Instructor Training Program in District VI got under way with the first session being held in San Diego County on February 7. This program is to continue for four consecutive weeks in San Diego County and will conclude at the close of March 4, 1949, for that County. This Instructor Training is being given under the very capable leadership of Associate Ranger Walter G. Francis.

On February 21, Instructor Training commenced in Orange County under the capable leadership of Charles Ulrey, Assistant Ranger, San Bernardino. The following

week, February 28, will mark the second session with his group, said session being held in San Bernardino County. Ulrey will complete his training assignment in Riverside County at the close of two weekly sessions ending March 25, 1949.

The enthusiasm and interest displayed to date by all participants taking part in the training program has been most encouraging and we definitely feel that highly satisfactory results will be accomplished from these training sessions, not only the individuals participating in the program, but in the followup of fire crew training throughout the coming season.

E. H. Bertsch
Assistant Deputy State Forester

It seems as though District VI has just laid down its pack from the 1948 fire season and already the 1949 fire season is upon us, with young men filing through our portals inquiring into the possibility of employment with the Division during the summer. These young men vary in ages from 16 to 19, the majority of them being students in search of summer employment, some of which have Forestry as their major and are seeking actual experience to broaden their knowledge along these lines. To all these young men, Forestry offers excitement and good molding; some are anxious to start in as State Forest Rangers while others more conservative, desire to start in the firefighter class. The position of Deputy State Forester has been as yet unthreatened by this onslaught; however, it is wise to remember that these excitement seeking youths of today, will be our Foresters of tomorrow. It will be these youths who will in years to come carry on the duties and responsibilities of the Division of Forestry.

In reading the issue of the News Letter for the month of February, District VI was pleased to discover that Stewart Sinclair has recently been married. We wish to take this opportunity to wish both Mr. and Mrs. lots of luck and many happy years together.

District VI also wishes to take this opportunity to commend Fred Gordon for his work on the cover of this February issue.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY ACTIVITIES

At this writing, dismantling work has begun on the 60 foot steel lookout tower on Mount Woodson. This tower will be transferred to another location in Northern California where the extra height is needed. It will be replaced by a new, modern type tower, more in keeping with the needs at this site.

The repeater vault on Lyons Peak is in its final completion stages - such stages being rather long and drawn-out due to the slow melting rate of the "unusual" snow pack.

Cuyamaca Park has been inaccessible all winter and at the present rate will remain so, with several feet of snow clinging tenaciously to its 6,515 foot slopes.

Len Chatten
Associate State Forest Ranger

AUTOMOTIVE SITUATION IN SAN DIEGO

Things have been happening in our shop lately. For the last month, every time anybody went into the shop, they would see Jim Coulter, Heavy Equipment

Operator, surrounded by a shower of welding sparks. You see, we have been building two County-owned fire trucks for our use.

Everybody in La Mesa has had their hand in on helping Jim with the building of the trucks. One truck is nearly completed and one waiting. Still another truck is being built by Yankee Body Works in Los Angeles. Here are some particulars that might be interesting:

They are Ford K-7 two-ton trucks. They will have two pumps, one Hale centrifugal mounted midship and one Viking mounted underneath the chassis. They will carry 350 gallons of water with 500 feet of 1½" hose and 300 feet of hard line, mounted on top on a reel. They also carry one 10 foot extension ladder and two hard suctions. They will be fully equipped structural and brush rigs.

The trucks were built so that they can be dismantled easily in case later work is done. They will have two cab mounted red lights and radios. The trucks overall length is 21 ft. Everyone claims they are really "the rigs".

John M. Hess, Foreman

CARROUSEL

The Division of Forestry in San Diego County had quite a busy social life during the month of January. First, on the 24th, was the annual dinner dance at the La Mesa Inn for all employees, their wives and husbands, etc. Believe it can safely be said that a very good time was had by all. I also think that these parties are a wonderful idea — but most of us will agree, once a year is enough. We are still chuckling over the party, as we are reminded of it again and again through the wonderful flash pictures taken all evening by Assistant Ranger "Slim" Carlson of Ramona. We have yet to see some of the pictures, but the ones we have seen so far have been very good.

Also included on our social calendar, was the very nice wedding of our "Old Bachelor" (we thought) Foreman Larry Ramsbacker to Miss Marilee McManigal on January 29. After the ceremony and reception, a little party was held by the Forestry gang with the newlyweds as guests of honor. We all want to offer our congratulations and wish them many years of happiness.

Leona Minga
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Belated congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Balsom. On December 20 they were presented with a new baby girl, named Sharon Art, who is now the proud father of three girls, is Assistant Ranger in charge of the East-end District of San Bernardino County.

W. W. Skinner
State Forest Ranger

IT ISN'T MY FAULT, OR IS IT?

It was a bright summer day. The woods were very quiet, the only sound was the swish of a passing automobile. Then the silence was shattered! A shot was heard,

followed by a roar of laughter. Than a large, black car disappeared over the hill.

Sammy, the chipmumk, poked his head out of his home and blinked. "What was all the noise about?" he wondered. Being an inquisitive little guy he decided to go find out. As he approached the meadow he saw something that made his small, chipmunk heart fly right up into his mouth. There, lying in the middle of the meadow was a large doe - dead.

"Gosh!" exclaimed Sammy. "Now, who in the world would be underhanded enough to do a thing like that? Certainly not one of us animals. We kill only when we're hungry. But this body hasn't been touched. Say, I'll bet it was one of those mean two-legged animals. They're always doing things like that. Well, there's nothing I can do about it."

As he went scampering back toward his home, he saw something else that made him blink. There, in some dry pine needles was a little white thing that was smoking at one end. Sammy knew what that was so he decided he would tell those mean, two-legged varmints all about it. He jumped up on a stump, took a deep breath that nearly popped his tiny furry chest, and began to speak. Here is what he said:

"Now I may be nothing but a small, uneducated chipmunk but sometimes I think I have more brains than all of you put together. Why can't you be a little more careful where you point your guns and throw your matches and cigarettes? If we caused you any trouble you would call an exterminating company and get rid of us. We can't do that. Some day you will look out your window and find that you live in nothing but a barren wasteland. It's up to you."

The smoke was getting thick and the fire was crackling in the underbrush. Sammy jumped down from his perch and began to run for the river. He got there safely and jumped in.

"Please do something quick," yelled Sammy, "because (glub) I don't (splash) like water!"

Bob Brackney
Navelencia Elementary School
Eighth Grade, age 14

FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

TRUMAN ASKS FOR FEDERAL REGULATION

Prospects for legislation providing for the regulation of cutting practices on privately owned timberlands are seen in the following statement by President Truman in his Economic Report to Congress on January 7:

"There has been no measurable improvement during the past year in our timber prospects. The saw timber cut still far exceeds annual growth. The depletion of our remaining supply, especially in small, privately owned forest properties, is proceeding so rapidly that immediate consideration should be given to legislation for regulation of forest practices.

"Unless much more rapid progress is made along lines of improved private practices or State legislation for the control of cutting practices, national interest and security will require Federal-State action. As in the case of soil

conservation, improved long-term credit would be helpful. Other forest conservation should be strengthened. Our depleted forest resources should be rebuilt to meet fully our needs on a sustained-yield basis."

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

BANKERS ENDORSE SUPPORT OF FORESTRY AS PART OF THEIR 1949 PROGRAM

The Program for Country Banks - 1949, of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association urges support of a forestry program as being an important part of its soil conservation work.

The program will include:

(1) Acquainting bankers with information concerning all forestry agencies operating in the states.

(2) Cooperation between the federal, state, and private forestry agencies and the bankers in studying forestry and its financial opportunities in the individual state, and the making use of studies which have been made by Federal Reserve banks and others.

(3) Cooperation with colleges of agriculture in making studies of production from well-managed farm woodlands and the economic importance of this production in a well-rounded farm enterprise.

(4) A study of integrating bank financing with forestry production.

(5) A study of adequate fire control.

(6) Invitations to forestry experts to speak on programs at state meetings.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

POLE BLIGHT DISEASE IS MORE SERIOUS THAN IT WAS FIRST CONSIDERED

Pole blight disease in western white pine is more serious than it was first thought, according to Dean D. S. Jeffers, University of Idaho, school of forestry.

The Idaho forestry school through a special research project, is spearheading an all-out attack against this disease, which is attacking most seriously pines between 40 and 100 years of age--commonly called "pole size" trees.

The research consists of establishing test plots, making cultures of various fungi, studying soil conditions, analyzing the wood and foliage of healthy and diseased trees, and investigating every lead that might give an answer to this problem.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

DOUGLAS FIR WOOD MOLASSES PUTS WEIGHT ON HEIFERS

Wood molasses made from Dougas fir is putting speedy, cheap gains on heifers in experimental tests at Washington State College.

Two groups of heifers were on the same ration except for molasses. At the end of 15 weeks the molasses group had gained 135 pounds compared to only 103 pounds for the other group.

Wood molasses is not on the market yet, but research on wood by-products is trying to pave the way.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

MILDER SMOKES FROM FRUIT TREE PAPER

Cigarette paper is soon to be made from fruit orchard trimmings by a new Canadian company incorporated under the name of Shaw-Manson, Ltd., with offices in Montreal and Toronto.

Most cigarette paper is now being manufactured from flax straw.

Forestry Digest - February, 1949

WATTS STRESSES NATIONAL FORESTS IN ANNUAL REPORT

Chief Forester Lyle F. Watts of the U. S. Forest Service spotlighted the National Forests in his annual report for 1948.

In it he stated that these public forests "still represent the largest tangible accomplishment in forest conservation in this county."

National security and welfare demand sound management and wise use of all forest land, Watts said and with our growing population and steady depletion of many forests in private ownership it means "our national forests and other public forests undoubtedly will play an increasingly important part in the Nation's economy."

Evidence of the downward trend of the private timber supply is found in the growing demand for timber from the National Forests, according to Watts. He noted that the 3,800,000,000 board feet of timber cut on the National Forests last year was three times the pre-war cut of 1,250,000,000 board feet.

He said, "Many sawmills that formerly had supplies of private timber are now wholly dependent on national forest timber to keep going."

Concerning privately owned timberlands Watts said: "Many lumber companies, pulp and paper companies, and other industrial and individual owners of private forest land are doing a good job of forest management. But only 8 percent of all timber-cutting practice on private lands can yet be so classed. Twenty-eight per cent is fair. Sixty-four per cent is poor or destructive. Private forestland resources as a whole are on the down grade. Timber is not being grown as fast as it is being used. Millions of acres of forest land are now poorly stocked or non-productive. Many forest lands are seriously deteriorating from a watershed standpoint.

"The Forest Service has repeatedly recommended measures to encourage better forest management on private lands -- increased public aid in fire protection and insect and disease control; increased technical advice and assistance for forest-land owners, especially the small owners; public aid in the development of

cooperative management and marketing associations of forest owners; provision for long-term, low-interest loans to help finance timber-growing enterprises; and more research on problems of timber growing and forest management.

"The Forest Service also has repeatedly recommended public control of timber cutting and related practices on private forest lands, sufficient to prevent destructive practices and to assure that forest lands will be kept in reasonably productive condition. A plan for regulation by the States, with basic national standards, and with Federal financial assistance, has been proposed."

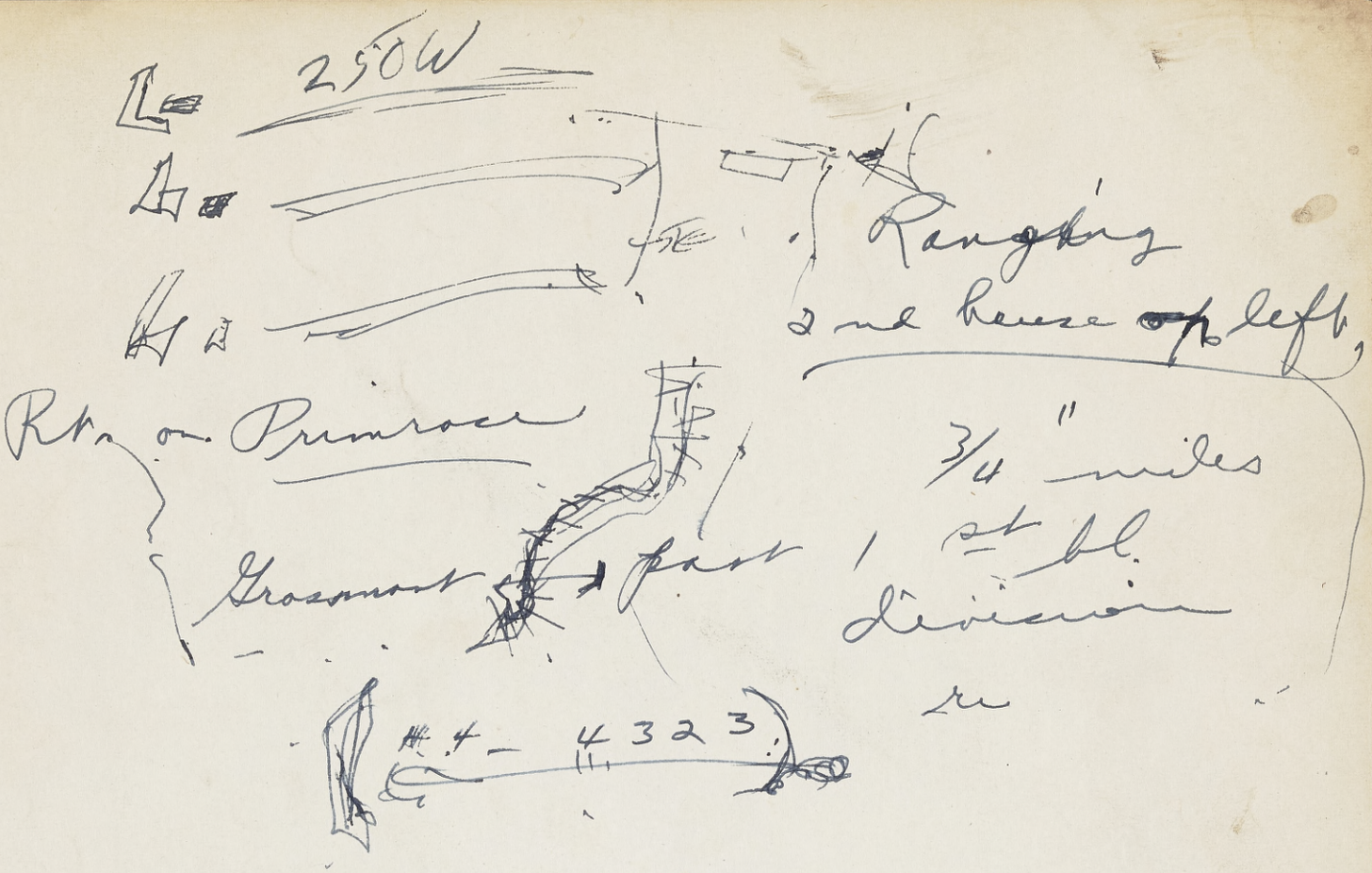
Forestry Digest - February, 1949

PREVENTION CAMPAIGN PAYING

Carl A. Gustafson, fire control chief of the U. S. Forest Service, believes that a 28-percent drop in the number of man-caused fires on national forests in 1948 represents progress in making the country more fire conscious.

Various agencies have been conducting forest fire prevention campaigns for 40 years. The drop was all the more significant, he said, because there were more campers, hunters, fishermen, and recreationist in the forests in 1948 than ever before.

Journal of Forestry - February, 1949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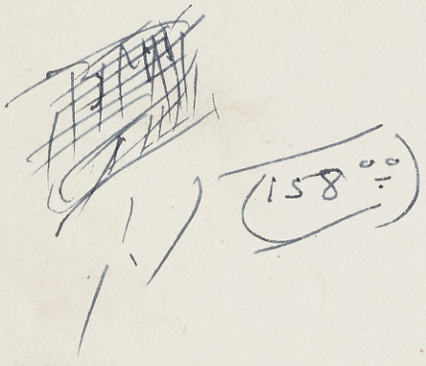
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